

Appl. No. 10/561,680
Reply to Office Action dated 08/13/2009

Remarks

Favorable reconsideration and reexamination of this application are respectfully requested. Claims 1 and 25 have been amended by incorporating the subject matter of claim 7, and with further definition of the features which are supported, for example, at page 38 of Applicants' original disclosure. Claim 7 has been canceled, in view of the revisions of claims 1 and 25. Claim 11 has been amended to address formal matters and in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. Claims 1-6 and 8-25 remain pending. Claims 1, 2, 7, 9-15, 19, and 25 were examined. Claims 3-6, 8, 16-18, and 20-24 are considered withdrawn.

Claim Objections

Claims 7 and 11 are objected to for informalities. Claim 7 has been canceled, rendering the objection moot. The typographical error of previous claim 7 has been addressed in claims 1 and 25 which now include the subject matter of previous claim 7. Claim 11 has been amended according to the Examiner's suggestion.

Withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections- 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-2, 9-14, and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bandou et al. (WO 03/029355). The rejection is rendered moot, as claims 1 and 25 include the subject matter of claim 7, and with further definition of the polymerizable carbon-carbon double bond structure (see e.g. page 38 of Applicants' disclosure).

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections- 35 U.S.C. §103

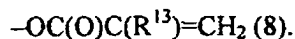
Claims 15 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bandou et al. (above). Applicant respectfully submits that this rejection is moot at least because claims 15 and 19 depend upon and further limit claim 1, which now includes the subject matter of claim 7.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

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Claims 1, 2, 7, 9-15, and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakagawa et al. (JP 2000-128924 A) in view of Bandou et al. (above). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 1 is directed to a curable composition that comprises 100 parts by weight of a poly(meth)acrylate (I) produced by control radical polymerization, and has at least one crosslinkable functional group represented by the general formula (8):



R^{13} represents a hydrogen atom, or a monovalent organic group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, and from 0.1 to 10 parts by weight of a surface tack modifier (II) having a melting point of between 30°C and 200°C at 1 atm.

Claim 25 is directed to a method of improving surface tack of a cured product, which employs the curable composition recited in claim 1.

The references cited, however, do not render claims 1 and 25 obvious. Nakagawa et al. describes a curable composition with a vinyl polymer that contains a terminal alkenyl group. The vinyl polymer is obtained by reacting the terminal halogen group of a vinyl polymer with an organozinc compound having a group $\text{CH}_2=\text{CR}^1-\text{CH}_2-\text{Zn}$ (see paragraph [0010]). However, Nakagawa et al. does not describe and is silent about a polymer having a crosslinkable functional group that is a polymerizable carbon-carbon double bond as recited in claims 1 and 25. More particularly, the reference in fact fails to disclose or suggest at least one crosslinkable functional group represented by the general formula (8): $-\text{OC}(\text{O})\text{C}(\text{R}^{13})=\text{CH}_2$ (8), where R^{13} represents a hydrogen atom, or a monovalent organic group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms. Rather, the terminal alkenyl group of the vinyl polymer in Nakagawa et al. does not satisfy and is different from the $\text{C}=\text{C}$ bond recited in the claims.

Bandou et al. fails to remedy the deficiencies of Nakagawa et al. Namely, Bandou et al. does not disclose or suggest at least one crosslinkable functional group represented by formula (8) as recited in claims 1 and 25. Thus, the references fail to disclose or suggest the features claimed. Claim 1 and its dependents, as well as claim 25, do not follow from the references cited and the claims are patentable.

Favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

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In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of this application in the form of a Notice of Allowance. If any questions arise regarding this communication, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative listed below.

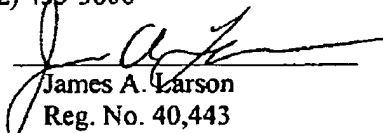


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Respectfully submitted,

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